



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANTS: Drewe, *et al.*

JUN 24 2004

SERIAL NO.: 09/744,489

GROUP ART UNIT: 1637

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FILED: January 23, 2001

EXAMINER: Siew, Jeffrey

FOR: NUCLEIC ACID DETECTION BY TRIPLE HELIX FORMATION

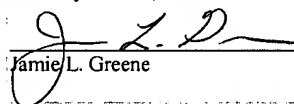
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DATE: June 14, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1430

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document, together with any document referred to as enclosed or attached, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Express Mail Label No. EV333519967US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1430, on this 14th day of June, 2004.


Jamie L. Greene

SECOND AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please consider the following Response to the Office Action mailed December 11, 2003.

The Claims Listing begins on page 3 of this paper.

The Remarks Section begins on page 6 of this paper.

Submitted with this Response is a Petition for Extension of Time, along with the required fee for a large entity, to extend the period for response 3 months, to and including June 11, 2004. Applicants note that the U.S. Patent Office was officially closed on Friday, June 11, 2004 for the funeral services of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

SECOND AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.